

RECORDING OF PROCEEDINGS

Wyoming Board of Agriculture Minutes October 4, 2006 Conference Call

Members Present:

Spencer Ellis, President
Jack Corson, Vice President
David Graham
Gene Hardy
John Etchepare, Director, WY Dept. of Agriculture
Lee Otto
Patrick Zimmerer
Dalin Winters

Members Absent:

Jim Mickelson - Excused
Helen Jones
David Largent
Emily Horton
Paige Smith, Governor Freudenthal's Office
Frank Galey, Dean, UW College of Agriculture

WDA Staff Present:

Muff Parker, Recording Secretary

Issues

Lee Otto and Jack Corson will be unable to attend the October 18 conference call.

John Etchepare announced Jason Fearneyhough as his new Deputy Director, announced the resignation of Grant Stumbough effective October 27, and in Barney's letter of resignation, his last day will be November 3. He attended a portion of the State Fair Advisory Board meeting last week in Thermopolis where they discussed the 2006 fair and changes for 2007. At that meeting they also decided the same rule will apply regarding the tail length for lambs, but that all champions will be x-rayed to ensure they have met the qualifications and if not, will be disqualified. It was also decided at that meeting not to have a PRCA rodeo, but they are going to work with the Wyoming Rodeo Association. The position of State Fair Director has been changed to an at-will position. He is in the process of contacting the selection and interview committee for that position and hopes to have 6-8 candidates to interview. His plan is to have the committee recommend 3 candidates by mid November for final selection by himself and the Governor and have a new director on board by December 1. **Gene Hardy made a motion to have Jack Corson and Emily Horton represent the Board on the State Fair Director Selection and Interview Committee. Seconded by Dave Graham. All voted in favor. Motion carried.**

John also talked about the changes to the Technical Services Division. Roy Reichenbach has been in poor health for some time and will be stepping down as manager of that division. John plans on having an internal vacancy announcement out soon for his replacement.

John said the Joint Ag will be reviewing the same bill that failed last legislative session to be introduced this year. They may split it into two bills at that time. The Ag Committee will be

meeting October 26 and 27 in Sundance. No agenda has been prepared at this time.

He also noted he has signed the Agreement with USDA on the Livestock Assistance Program and that WDA is in the process of working out the detail of the distribution. He hopes to have it ready for final review in 1-2 weeks and will include the information to the board.

John wanted to address a letter that had been sent anonymously to himself, Karen Everett, the members of the board, and the Governor. Only one member had received the letter, but John read it and addressed the concerns voiced.

The ADMB will be meeting in Casper at the Game and Fish office on October 6. They will be reviewing 4 or 5 Predator Management Plans for funding.

Gene Hardy asked John to find out what the rates on right-of-ways are currently because he has been approached by UP.

There being no additional business. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Spencer Ellis, President

Date